

Message Text

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ACTION IO-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 OIC-02 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00

DOT-00 EB-06 FMC-02 INR-07 NSAE-00 RSC-01 CG-00

COA-01 DLOS-05 SWF-01 AF-10 ARA-10 EA-10 NEA-10 DRC-01

PA-02 PRS-01 USIA-15 /103 W
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R 171709Z OCT 74

FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4855

UNCLAS LONDON 13532

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: IMCO

SUBJECT: IMCO EXTRAORDINARY ASSEMBLY: OPENING

1. IMCO 5TH EXTRAORDINARY ASSEMBLY, CONVENED TO CONSIDER CONVENTION AMENDMENTS TO ENLARGE COUNCIL AND MARITIME SAFETY COMMITTEE AND TO CONSIDER FURTHER CONVENTION AMENDMENTS PROPOSED BY FRANCE, OPENED OCTOBER 16 WITH 64 MEMBER STATES REGISTERED. (PRESENT IMCO TOTAL MEMBERSHIP IS 87.) ASSEMBLY DECIDED WITHOUT OBJECTION TO PROCEED FIRST WITH RECOMMENDATIONS OF AD HOC WORKING GROUP, AND THEREAFTER TO TAKE UP MORE EXTENSIVE AMENDMENT PROPOSALS OF FRANCE.

2. CYPRUS HAS CIRCULATED NOTE TO EFFECT THAT TURKISH CLOSURE OF SEA AREAS IN AUGUST WAS UNILATERAL AND ARBITRARY ACTION IN FLAGRANT VIOLATION OF CUSTOMARY AND CONVENTIONAL INTERNATIONAL LAW, U.N. CHARTER AND ARTICLE 1B OF IMCO CONVENTION. ASSEMBLY AGREED OVER TURKISH OBJECTION TO INSCRIBE ITEM FOR CONSIDERATION LATER IN ASSEMBLY. TURKISH DELEGATION THEREUPON CIRCULATED NOTE STATING TURKEY HAD ACTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH TRIPARTITE AGREEMENT, AND POINTING OUT RESTRICTIONS LIFTED AUGUST 16 AND AUTHORITIES CONCERNED ALL NOTIFIED.

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CYPRUS WILL ASK ASSEMBLY TO ADOPT RESOLUTION FINDING

TURKEY IN VIOLATION OF INTERNATIONAL CONVENTIONS, AND
URGING TURKEY TO ABIDE BY IMCO CONVENTION AND NOT REPEAT
SUCH ACTION IN FUTURE. ASSEMBLY EXPECTED TO TAKE UP
QUESTION LATER OCTOBER 18.

3. PORTUGUESE EMBASSY LONDON REQUESTED RIGHT FOR PORTU-
GAL (WHICH IS NOT IMCO MEMBER) TO BE PRESENT AS OBSERVER.
PREVIOUS IMCO ASSEMBLY HAD SUSPENDED THIS RIGHT FOR
PORTUGAL. AFTER OVERNIGHT DELAY TO PERMIT LDC
CONSULTATION, ASSEMBLY GRANTED OBSERVER RIGHTS TO PORTU-
GAL BY CONSENSUS DECISION OCTOBER 17.

4. GROUP 77 HAS MET TWICE AND REACHED CONCLUSION ITS
COLLECTIVE INTERESTS BEST SERVED BY ADOPTION BY PRESENT
ASSEMBLY SIMPLY OF AD HOC WORKING GROUP RECOMMENDATIONS
FOR COUNCIL AND MSC EXPANSIONS, WITH MORE COMPLEX AMEND-
MENT PROPOSALS OF FRANCE (AND OTHERS RECEIVED AT AS-
SEMBLY) DEFERRED FOR FURTHER STUDIES. PROSPECT FOR AS-
SEMBLY TREATMENT OF THESE DISCUSSED SEPTEL.

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Message Attributes

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